

# Gem County Sheriff's Department

## Voluntary Witness Statement

I, (print) Steven P Gashill, on this date 9/22/20

Hereby give this true and accurate statement to the Gem County Sheriff's Department. I understand that making a false report is a crime.

I arrived on the Schill fire about 1830. While receiving an briefing, Operations Neiwert informed us of a SEAT (single engine air tanker) crash on Div A. I proceeded directly to the scene to assist. I arrived on scene at 1900. I began swapping out with other responders to provide chest compressions on an unconscious male pilot. While alternating, I assisted with exposing upper and lower limbs for IV/IO access. I then assisted to move the patient via backboard to the ridge top where paramedics took over care. I then got out of the way to assist with scene control.

I have read this voluntary consisting of \_\_\_\_\_ pages, and I do affirm that all facts and statements contained herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

[Redacted]  
Signature

[Redacted]  
SS#

[Redacted]  
Date of Birth

[Redacted]  
Address

Boise, ID 83704

[Redacted]  
Telephone Number

Use other side if more space is required

# Gem County Sheriff's Department

## Voluntary Witness Statement

I, (print) Robert L Hansen

, on this date 9-22-20

Hereby give this true and accurate statement to the Gem County Sheriff's Department. I understand that making a false report is a crime.

On 9-22-20 at 6:45 PM MST I witnessed a single engine air tanker attempt a retardant drop on the Still Fire in Gem County. His retardant never released. His angle seemed too steep and he then hit the ridge just to the southeast of me. He crashed and his momentum carried him to the next ridge to the east where his plane came to rest.

I have read this voluntary consisting of \_\_\_\_\_ pages, and I do affirm that all facts and statements contained herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

[Redacted] Signature

[Redacted] SS#

[Redacted] Date of Birth

[Redacted] Address

Boise ID, 83702

[Redacted] Telephone Number

Use other side if more space is required

# Gem County Sheriff's Department

## Voluntary Witness Statement

I, (print)

Cody Weidner

on this date

9/22/20

Hereby give this true and accurate statement to the Gem County Sheriff's Department. I understand that making a false report is a crime.

I was working the south west side of schiller fire. Watched a SEAT dive as if to do a drop into the valley below as he then was unable to pull up and crashed into the ridge over rolling over the hill out of site. At the point myself & one other crew member hiked in to assist with patient care.

I have read this voluntary consisting of [redacted] pages, and I do affirm that all facts and statements contained herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

[redacted]  
Signature

[redacted]  
SS#

[redacted]  
Date of Birth

Emmett

[redacted]  
Telephone Number

Use other side if more space is required

# Gem County Sheriff's Department

## Voluntary Witness Statement

I, (print)

BICKY LEE

, on this date

Sept 22, 2020

Hereby give this true and accurate statement to the Gem County Sheriff's Department. I understand that making a false report is a crime.

I was constructing fireline on a ridge over when I heard the call of a seat hitting the ground. I then heard right after confirmation of the crash and I started to the area a ridge over. I with others were first down and the 2 medics went to work while I grabbed extinguisher out of UTU to put small fire out around plane. None of us were familiar with planes so it took a bit to figure out how to get individual out. Were needing to get him out due to fuel spill and flames around the area.

Medics and other individual started compressions due to no pulse after pilot was pulled from crash. By then other advanced personal showed up and I stepped away.

I have read this voluntary consisting of 1 pages, and I do affirm that all facts and statements contained herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature

SS#

Date of Birth

BOISE

Address

Telephone Number

Use other side if more space is required

# Gem County Sheriff's Department

## Voluntary Witness Statement

I, (print) Matt Van Zyl

, on this date 09/22/20

Hereby give this true and accurate statement to the Gem County Sheriff's Department. I understand that making a false report is a crime.

ARRIVED ON SCENE TO WITNESSING LIFE SAVING MEASURES.  
Being an EMT I ASSISTED FIRST CARE. I THEN PROCEEDED  
ENGAGE IN CHEST COMPRESSIONS FOR SEVERAL MINUTES BEFORE  
SWITCHING TO A DIFFERENT EMR. I THEN ASSISTED WITH ANY  
LIFE SAVING ACTION SUPERIOR MEDICAL PERSONNEL HANDLED.  
WE CONTINUED UNTIL PARAMEDICS FROM ST. LUKES DECLARED  
THE PATIENT DEAD AT APPROXIMATELY 10:27. AFTERWARDS ME  
AND FELLOW MEDICAL PERSONNEL PROCEEDED TO CLEAN UP THE  
SCENE UNTIL RELEASED FROM SAID SCENE.

I have read this voluntary consisting of 7 pages, and I do affirm that all facts and statements contained herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

[REDACTED] SS# [REDACTED]

Date of Birth [REDACTED]

Boise ID 83713

Use other side if more space is required

Telephone Number [REDACTED]

# Gem County Sheriff's Department

## Voluntary Witness Statement

I, (print)

Adam Miller

on this date

9/22/2020

Hereby give this true and accurate statement to the Gem County Sheriff's Department. I understand that making a false report is a crime.

Plane came over the ridge and pushed into the gally, dropped retentent and began to pull up. Had too much downward momentum and couldn't clear the next ridge. Plane crashed into a steep section of the ridge and then bounced over top.

I have read this voluntary consisting of \_\_\_\_\_ pages, and I do affirm that all facts and statements contained herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature

SS#

Date of Birth

Address

Emmett ID. 83611

Telephone Number

Use other side if more space is required

# Gem County Sheriff's Department

## Voluntary Witness Statement

I, (print) Hanson, Nicholas G.

, on this date 9/22/20

Hereby give this true and accurate statement to the Gem County Sheriff's Department. I understand that making a false report is a crime.

Approx 185 radio traffic is cleared following a SEAT crash. I responded to call qualified medical personnel to crash site. As an AEMT I responded with basic medical equipment & a C-collar. Upon arrival patient was exsanguinated & compressions started. I was tasked w/ establishing a line in the left AC. IV was in good. No lines established off IO in left Tibia which was then and a portent line in Right humerus also on IO. I conducted 4 full rounds of CPR before air med arrived and replaced me w/ a LUCAS. I counted 4 rounds EPI, 300 mmHg, BI lateral needle decompression, & an LMA. I found 0 shocks patient was in Vfib. Monitored patients pulse the rest of time until time of death was announced no pulse & no carotid at that time. Wallet, glasses, phone case & money found on patient after time of death. Helped clean up and pack board patient for transport. Covered body & reported to the coroner for witness statements

I have read this voluntary consisting of 1 pages, and I do affirm that all facts and statements contained herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

SS#

Date of Birth

Brose, III 83706.

Address

Use other side if more space is required

Telephone Number

# Gem County Sheriff's Department

## Voluntary Witness Statement

I, (print) KNUYE C. SANDAHL, on this date 09/22/2020

Hereby give this true and accurate statement to the Gem County Sheriff's Department. I understand that making a false report is a crime.

While engineering GCFD#1 Unit 844 in Division Zulu, I witness one of the single engine air tankers (SEAT) make its approach, consistent with previous approaches from other SEATs. As the aircraft cleared the top of the ridge we were working, the aircraft reduced altitude on the final approach. I commented to myself that he was awfully low. The aircraft did not drop retardant at the previous SEATs End retardant drop. The aircraft began to climb out of the drainage. I heard a brief sound of engine acceleration when the aircraft struck the top portion of the hill, similar to "pancaking". The aircraft then flipped over the hill where I lost site of it. This event took place while the aircraft was fly generally from West to East.

I have read this voluntary consisting of 1 pages, and I do affirm that all facts and statements contained herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature

SS#

Date of Birth

Address

EMMETT, IDAHO 83617

Telephone Number

Use other side if more space is required

# Gem County Sheriff's Department

## Voluntary Witness Statement

I, (print) Michael Welch, on this date 09/22/2020

Hereby give this true and accurate statement to the Gem County Sheriff's Department. I understand that making a false report is a crime.

I Michael Welch was assigned to Zuly command.  
My crew was hit hot Spots on the top of the ridge.  
When a Seat air craft was making retardant drops on the  
South flank of the fire, I was video the drop when  
the seat looked like it was going to make a drop, and  
hit the west slope. At that time I radioed command  
and was unable to reach TC. I then sent Jarod Herkes and  
Cody Weichers to see if they could assist in anyway.  
I also sent State eng 6 with there crew and equipment  
to assist. As per Chief Welch I forward the video that  
I recorded earlier as per requested.

I have read this voluntary consisting of \_\_\_\_\_ pages, and I do affirm that all facts and statements contained herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

[Redacted]  
Signature

SS#

[Redacted]  
Date of Birth

[Redacted]  
Address

[Redacted]  
Telephone Number